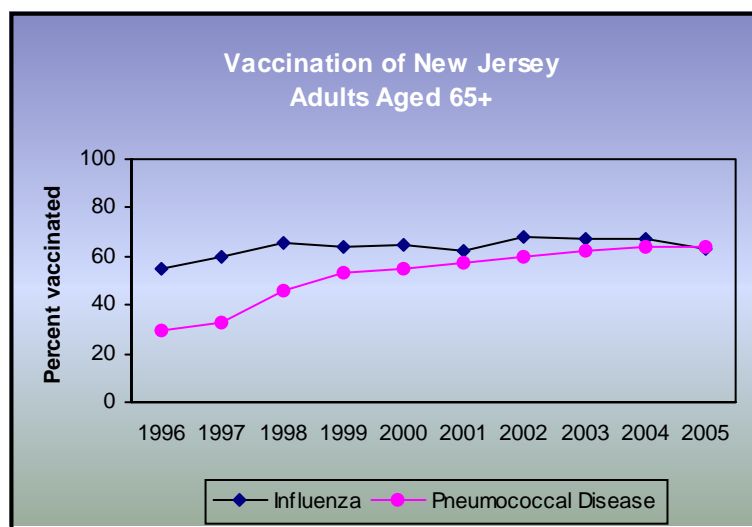


Immunization Status of New Jersey's Adults and Children: National Adult Immunization Awareness Week is September 24-September 30

Adult Immunization

- Vaccine-preventable infections due to *Streptococcus pneumoniae* ([pneumococcal disease](#)) and influenza are a major cause of hospitalization and death among adults in the United States. Among persons aged 65 and over, influenza and pneumococcal infections are responsible for more illnesses and more deaths each year than all other vaccine-preventable diseases combined.
- Prior to 2001, *S. pneumoniae* was estimated to account for over one-third of all pneumonia-related hospitalizations among adults in the United States. In 2001, a conjugate vaccine was introduced substantially changing disease rates.
- In 2002, the rate of invasive disease caused by *S. pneumoniae* was 13 per 100,000 and 14% of those hospitalized died.



- Nearly 2,000 deaths per year in New Jersey are attributed to influenza and pneumonia. Eighty percent of the deaths occur among the elderly, ages 75 and over.
- The [Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices](#) and other major authorities generally recommend annual influenza vaccination for all persons aged 50 and over, and a one-time pneumococcal vaccination for all persons aged 65 and over. Immunization against pneumococcal disease and influenza is also recommended for other individuals at [high risk](#).
- In 2005, more than one-third of non-institutionalized New Jersey adults aged 65 and over reported not receiving an influenza vaccination within the past year and never

receiving a pneumococcal vaccination. However, self-reported vaccination rates for both pneumococcal disease and influenza have been increasing since the mid-1990's, and are now comparable to those of the nation as a whole.

- According to the 2005 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) survey, about 70% of non-institutionalized New Jersey adults aged 75 and over had both an influenza vaccination within the past year and a pneumococcal vaccination, compared with about 50% of adults aged 65-74.
- In 2005, about 51% of New Jersey adults aged 65 and over who identified themselves as non-Hispanic Black reportedly had both an influenza vaccination within the past year and a pneumococcal vaccination, compared with about 67% of New Jersey adults aged 65 and over who identified themselves as non-Hispanic White.

Childhood Immunization

- While all states including New Jersey have immunization requirements for children entering day care and school, all children, and particularly young children who have not been fully immunized, remain vulnerable to potentially deadly and disabling outbreaks of vaccine-preventable infectious diseases.
- It is currently recommended that all children be immunized against the following diseases by age 18 months: [diphtheria/tetanus/acellular pertussis](#) (DTaP), [polio](#), [measles/mumps/rubella](#) (MMR), [Haemophilus influenzae type b](#) (Hib), [hepatitis B](#), pneumococcal disease, [varicella](#), and influenza. Also recommended is vaccination against [hepatitis A](#) for certain high-risk children.
- In 2004, 76% of New Jersey children met the 4:3:1:3:3 vaccination series recommendation.
- The Registry Act in 2004 officially recognized the New Jersey Immunization Information System (NJIIS). NJIIS is a web based immunization registry system used to track statewide immunization data.
- New Jersey is one of approximately 25 states, which require health insurance companies to provide childhood vaccines as a covered benefit to policyholder families.

Sources:

New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services

- [Childhood Immunization Facts](#)
- [New Jersey Behavioral Risk Factor Survey, 2005](#)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- [Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases, 7th ed.](#)
- [Adult Immunization Recommendations](#)
- [2006 Childhood and Adolescent Immunization Recommendations](#)
- [National Immunization Survey](#)
- [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Reports](#)

For more information:

[National Adult Immunization Week](#)

[National Immunization Awareness Month](#)

[National Immunization Program](#)

[State Health Profiles for Immunization](#)

[Healthy New Jersey 2010](#) (includes childhood and adult immunization objectives)

[Vaccine Preventable Disease Program](#) of the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services



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